**October Meeting****Friday, October 10
8:00 PM**

**Our Savior's Lutheran
Church
1035 Carol Lane
Lafayette, CA**

Note that due to Pacificon this month,
the meeting will be held on the *second*
Friday of the month instead of the third.

Presidential QRM**By Sam Lipson, KO6JR**

PACIFICON, PACIFICON, PACIFICON!!!!!! Pacificon '97 is right around the corner. This is going to be the best Pacificon ever. The program is larger than ever and the topics covered in the seminars range from CW to state of the art amateur operations. This price is still a deal at \$3.00 in advance for all three days. This is also a great place to upgrade your license with three days of VE exams. Tell all of your non-ham friends who want to get their licenses. The banquet will be great, as always, and remember, Saturday at midnight is the secret Wouff-Hong ceremony. We can't forget the swap meet either; two days of equipment which one doesn't need or want any more and might be exactly what you are looking for. The antenna forum (a previously sold out event) will also be held again this year on Friday. Tickets are \$10.00 and include all materials. I hope to see all of you at the premier amateur radio convention in the West.

I'd like to thank Jeff Straus KE6QYM for serving as membership chairman. However, he has decided not to continue due to his own personal work load. Our new membership chair, Pete Smith, W6NZY, started this last month and we want to thank Pete for taking over this very important position in the Club.

The Board met again regarding the restructuring of the Club and Repeaters. A compromise solution was found and I believe that everyone will agree is functional and represents the needs and desires of the Club. Look for the details elsewhere in the *Carrier*.

By the time you read this, our antennas should be up on the tower and our radios hooked up and playing. Again, we need to thank the team for working hard with Diablo Communications and others in getting our radios back up to peak performance. We all appreciate all of the work that goes into maintaining our repeater systems.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at our next general meeting and at Pacificon. 73,

Sam Lipson, KO6JR

...At Your Service**By Charles Arthur, AC6WU**

I love meaningful projects. I usually have four or five going on at the same time. These can range from building a new mantle for the fireplace to designing a modulated CW keyer kit. Learning and building are subjects I never tire of. Perhaps that's what attracted me to amateur radio. I have met others from all walks of life in this hobby that have similar interests. I hope this hobby never dies out.

Sadly, however, I see a great apathy among some amateurs. I see people who complain about an increase in dues for no apparent reason. These same people I see in restaurants, eating expensive meals. I see them drinking expensive alcohol, smoking expensive cigarettes, and going to expensive movies. They buy expensive computers on which to play games. I wager that as they read this they think none of these things are expensive. Why would an increase in club dues for a meaningful hobby be outlandish, expensive?

On the other hand, I have met amateurs that seemingly cannot shave or care for their appearance and some that cannot even fix their teeth! Yet they find the money to buy radio equipment by the ton. It is a puzzlement. I can only think that if one is a complainer, one will always be a complainer. A person finds the money for whatever they

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Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club W6CX

P.O. Box 23222
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
(510) 932-6125

The Carrier is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to MDARC members, and space is available.

All material must be submitted to the editor by the first of day of the month of publication. Material is accepted on a first-in, first-out basis. Articles and other material may be submitted via Internet email to w6uv@wco.com (preferred), or delivered to the editor at the address listed below. Material will be accepted in plain ASCII, Word for Windows, or WordPerfect format. Material may also be submitted as hardcopy.

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Technical Manager

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Proposed MDARC Dues Structure

The following table shows the new proposed dues structure for MDARC and the RRRC (Rocky Ridge Repeater Committee.) Associate members are students, Novice class amateurs, or unlicensed individuals.

Regular members	\$20	Regular members have 1 vote
Family membership	\$30	Family members have 1 vote for each person in the family
Associate members	\$10	Associate members have 1 vote
RRRC members	\$30	RRRC members get 1 autodial slot
RRRC Family additional	\$5	RRRC Family membership

MDARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

September 8, 1997

The monthly meeting of the board of directors of MDARC was called to order by President Sam Lipson, KO6JR, at Baker's Square Restaurant in Concord on September 8, 1997, at 7:30 p.m. The following members were present: Vice President Cal Groom, KE6OEH; Treasurer Greg Estep, KE6VTA; Emergency Coordinator Charles Arthur, AC6WU; Social Chairman George Roush WB6OFH; Secretary Donna Cook, KE6PPM; Carrier Editor Jerry Gardner, W6UV; and Directors Paul Dickey, N6JOX; John Stuart, KM6QX; Ed Ritchie, K6SFD; and Tom Seabury, KO6RO. Also present were Jay Caldis, KT6Y; Repeater Committee Chairman Jim Brunk, N6BHX; Jim Tittle, KC6SOE; Richard Shappee, WA5HQJ; Tracey Schwartz, KE6TOT; Dick Brown, KT6X; Howard Burk, KE6PTT; Keith Lattin, N6PMF; and Bert Dawson, KB7BGM.

President Sam reported that the special service club certification for 1997 has been obtained.

Tracey and George reported on plans for coming social activities. George requested a check for \$85 to the City of Concord for the Baldwin Park 1998 picnic site. The motion was made, seconded and carried to hold the 1998 picnic in Baldwin Park on the Saturday after the Friday meeting (July 18). Tracey reported that she has researched five places as possible locations for the Christmas social. The Contra Costa Country Club appears to be the best value for the price. \$25-\$26 per person will cover everything, including gratuities, and the \$1000 buffer will lower the cost per person, depending upon the number of people attending. Holding the event midweek will also give more flexibility and lower cost. The consensus is to schedule the dinner for Wednesday, December 17, with a no-host bar beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Contra Costa Country Club, Golf Club Road. The budgeted amount is \$200 for awards, \$300 for prizes, \$400 for decor, and \$1000 for food. George will ask Lauren, WA6CIE, to contact Sam regarding a handheld radio from HRO. The room will hold about 300 people. There was some discussion as to whether to have Santa Claus distribute gifts. It was suggested that if Santa does appear, the club should furnish gifts to be distributed among the children present. An announcement will be published in the November Carrier. Pacificon Chair Greg, KE6VTA, said that Pacificon for 1997 is well in hand, and ticket sales are coming in, but next year's contract has not yet been finalized.

President Sam said that a membership chairman is needed. Dick, KT6X, volunteered to call four possible candidates. Jay, KT6Y, made the suggestion that we furnish the software to a member who is willing to take the job and has a computer but does not have the software.

Under Old Business, President Sam brought before the board the issue of selling advertisement space in the directory, which had been tabled until this meeting. It was decided to leave the decision to the new membership chair. It

continued on page 3

Joint Meeting of the MDARC Board of Directors and RRRG Board of Directors

August 4, 1997

The monthly meeting of the board of directors of MDARC was called to order by President Sam Lipson, KO6JR, at Emil Villa's Restaurant in Concord on August 4, 1997, at 7:30 pm. Other members present: Cal Groom, KE6OEH; Greg Estep, KE6VTA; Charles Arthur, AC6WU; George Roush, WB6OFH; Donna Cook, KE6PPM; Jerry Gardner, W6UV; John Stuart, KM6QX; Ed Ritchie, K6SFD; Tom Seabury, KO6RO; Tracey Schwartz, KE6TOT; RRRG Committee Chairman Jim Brunk, N6BHX; Bert Dawson, KB7BMG; Stu Cannon, KE6OFD; Howard Burk, KE6PTT; Dick Schulze, AA6DL; Dick Brown, KT6X; and Jay Caldis, KT6Y.

The minutes of the July 7 board meeting were approved as printed in the *Carrier*.

Treasurer Greg, KE6VTA, distributed his report. The report was approved.

George, WB6OFH, and Tracey, KE6TOT, reported on options for the holiday social. One possibility is a catered turkey dinner at the usual monthly meeting place. There was some discussion as to preference of restaurant or catered dinner, and cost limitations. George and Tracey would appreciate input from members.

The next board meeting will be September 8 at 7:30, location to be announced. The MDARC board meeting was adjourned. The remainder of the joint session was devoted to repeater issues.

President Sam opened the joint session by stating that the goal of the session is to form a plan for financing the increased rent on the repeater systems. The new total annual cost of rent and maintenance, not including autopatch and projects, will be approximately \$7000.

John, KM6QX, suggested a \$10 per year increase in MDARC dues to cover the increased repeater cost. Dick, KT6X, suggested reorganizing to eliminate RRRG, since use of the repeater is open to all MDARC members. Jay, KT6Y, mentioned that no other club in the Bay Area has dues as low as MDARC and that repeater costs should be paid for with a moderate increase in dues. Jim, N6BHX, read some e-mail suggestions, which included combining RRRG and MDARC to form a tech-

nical committee with a larger scope than just repeater operations.

The consensus seems to be to shut down RRRG and incorporate its functions into MDARC. The new committee may have a chairperson to make assignments. Greg, KE6VTA, suggested giving the committee a budget for day-to-day expenses.

Discussion regarding changes in dues raised a number of questions, including how to handle individual memberships, family memberships, and student memberships, to establish an equitable structure while collecting the needed funds. Greg, KE6VTA, will discuss at the August 15 general meeting. Proposed dues are \$40 individual, \$50 family, \$20 student, with no extra charge for autodial.

A motion was proposed for bringing this matter to the general membership. After discussion and revisions, and review of the bylaws, the following motion resulted:

I. Effective tonight (August 4, 1997) the Rocky Ridge Repeater Group is dissolved and assets transferred to MDARC's main treasury and the approved budget merged with the MDARC budget.

II. A Repeater Operations Committee is formed to carry out the function of repeater operation.

Motion carried.

President Sam, KO6JR, appointed Jim Brunk, N6BHX, as interim chairman of the Repeater Operations Committee. Jim can appoint his own committee.

A motion was made by Ed Ritchie, K6SFD, to present the revised dues structure to the membership for vote. The revised dues amounts would also apply to those who were members of RRRG. Motion carried. The proposal of the motion with a budget analysis will be published in the *Carrier*.

Jim, N6BHX, announced that the first meeting of the new committee will be held on the same day the meeting was previously scheduled. Jim invited former members to ask to be considered for the new committee.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Cook, KE6PPM

September 8th Board Meeting Minutes

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was also suggested that the job of membership directory be separated from the job of membership chairman. The motion was made by Ed, K6SFD, to encourage advertising for the 1998 directory, as it would offset the cost. The directory costs about \$1.00 per copy. The motion was seconded and amended to state that the rate structure be approved by the board prior to solicitation. Motion carried.

The tabled issue from the August general meeting was again discussed. The board had made the decision to dissolve the Rocky Ridge Repeater Group and pull the budget into the main club budget. The membership had questioned the proposed dues structure and asked the board to reconsider. After considerable discussion, the following motion was made by Paul Dickey, N6JOX: Adopt a rate structure of \$20 for a regular club membership, \$30 for a family membership, \$10 for an associate membership (students not included in family memberships and novices or unlicensed individuals), with an additional \$30 for repeater dues, if desired, i.e. \$65 total for a family desiring repeater privileges. The \$65 would allow one autopatch slot, however each individual would have full voting privilege. Seconded. President Sam pointed out that for any dues structure to be approved, it must be published twice in the *Carrier*. The above proposal can be published in October and November and voted upon in December. Other discussion, call for the question, motion passed unanimously.

continued on page 5

Contra Costa County Alert

By JC Smith, KÆHPS

For those who missed it, there was an article on page A5 of the Wednesday 9/10/97 CCTimes titled "County may tighten tower rules." Many have seen this coming and warnings have been posted previously by the League. This could, although it doesn't have to, have adverse consequences for hams in this area.

This tightening is primarily in response to the increasing number of cell sites and other commercial towers, but amateur towers may get swept into the mess if we just sit on our hands. Now is the time

to act, not after the regulations are formulated. Contact your county supervisor (and anyone else you know that might be involved in or could influence the process) and ask them to ensure that any new tower regulations specifically exempt amateur towers. Current regulations do exempt amateur towers, and we want it to stay that way. Point out that amateur towers are not for profit and that they often serve the public free of charge in public service rolls. Also, these amateur towers are not the ones most people are objecting to popping up in open space areas, on hilltops and places like Mt. Diablo.

Don't wait. Do it now. While you are at

it, you might want to subscribe to the board of supervisors agenda so you would be notified any time this issue was coming up at a BoS meeting for discussion or a vote. To subscribe call 335-1900 and ask for subscription information to be sent out to you. This should also be a good number to call if you don't know the name or address of your supervisor. Of course, keep an eye out for more articles in the Times and watch the Tower Talk SIG on the MDARC club BBS.

and in Walnut Creek...

On Oct. 7th the Walnut Creek City Council will be holding a public meeting to review their tower ordinance. This new

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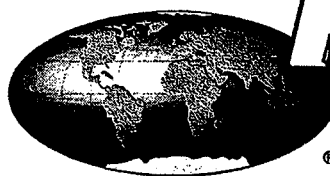
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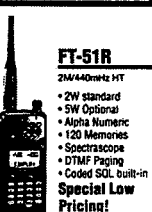
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development comes from a dispute between one of our members, Robert Bickel, and a neighbor. Although the meeting will be over by the time you read this, the issue will most likely still be up in the air. If you have a Walnut Creek address it would be very helpful if you would drop a short line to the City Council and just say that you would like to see the regulations remain as they are now.

Much time and effort by many members of the amateur radio community and City government went into formulating these regulations. Although they are not ideal from an amateur operators point of view, most feel that they can live with the current restrictions. Anything more restrictive, however, would be hard to swallow. Currently Walnut Creek has a 45' height limit (with limited provisions for an increase to 60' in certain circumstances). However, even the 45' height is being objected to by Robert's neighbor.

Don't wait until it's too late, write that letter NOW. The address is:

Walnut Creek City Council
1666 N. Main Street
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

DO IT NOW!

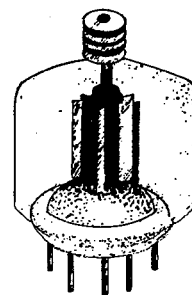
September 8th Board Meeting Minutes

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New business: The issue was discussed regarding the denial of a building permit to a Walnut Creek ham who would like to build a 45' antenna. Harry Styron, K6MFV, has volunteered to represent the homeowner. A twenty-page list of hams residing in Walnut Creek has been prepared for submission and hams may be asked to attend the meeting. It should also be brought to the attention of the approving authority that amateur radio volunteers have assisted the city in many events in the past such as the Walnut Festival.

The agenda for the October 6th board meeting at Emil Villa's will include discussion of a five-year plan. The October general meeting will be held on the 10th to avoid conflict with Pacificon.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Cook, KE6PPM



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List of Humorous Computer-Related Acronyms

By Derek Cashman

IBM

Idiots But Me
Idiots Building Machines
I've Been Mislead
Itty Bitty Machines
I've Been Moved
I Blame Microsoft
It's Better Manually
I've Been Mugged
Itty Bitty Machine
I'll Buy Macintoshes (next time...)
It Bit Me
I Shoulda Boughta Macintosh
I Built Microsoft
I Bring Manuals

Macintosh

Machine Always Crashes, If Not The Operating System Hangs

MS-Windows

Mostly Swaps When It's Not Dealing Only With Solitaire
Mainly Slow When It's Not Dealing Only With Solitaire
My System Will Intentionally Never Do Output Without Scrambling
My System's Wholly Integrated Newly Designed Over Weight Solitaire
My System Will Intentionally Never Do Output Without Scrambling
MS-Sloth
MS-Lost

Windows

When I Need Data Output Without Speed Will Install Needless Data On Whole System
Well, It Never Does Operate With Speed Wholly Inbred Needless Data On the Welfare System
While Idle, Never Does Operate Well, Sigh
While Idle, Needs DX or WorkStation
Wholly Inadequate Needless Damned Outrageous Waste of Space

Win

Whoppingly Immense NOP (NOP = assembly command to do nothing)
Worm Infestation Netware

MS-Windows NT or Windows NT
My Solitaire With Its New De-accelera-

tor Only With Some Network Technology
Well Intended, Network De-accelerator,
Only Works Sometimes, Never Totally
Windows as a Network Trojan

Different Operating Systems (Expectations)

Macintosh: What You See Is What You Get
MS-DOS: You Asked For It, You Got It
UNIX: IfUHv2sk, UDntWnt2Kno
VMS: You Got It, All Of It, Want It Or Not

You Might be a Computer Nut If:

From a packet message originated by K2GKK

If you window shop at Radio Shack.
If you introduce your wife as mylady@home.wife.
If you want an 24X CD-ROM for Christmas.
If the only jokes you receive are through e-mail.
If you use a CAD/CAM package to design your son's Pinewood Derby race car.
If you have used coat hangers and duct tape for something other than hanging coats and taping ducts.
If, at Christmas, it goes without saying that you will be the one to find the burned-out bulb in the string.
If your ideal evening consists of fast-forwarding through the latest sci-fi movie looking for technical inaccuracies.
If you carry on a one-hour debate over the expected results of a test that actually takes just five minutes to run.
If you've modified your can opener to be microprocessor driven.
If you've ever taken the back off your TV just to look inside.
If a team of you and your co-workers have set out to modify the antenna of the radio in your work area for better reception.
If you thought the contraption ET used to phone home was stupid.
If you have never backed up your hard drive.
If you have ever saved the power cord from a broken appliance.
If you have ever purchased an electronic appliance 'as-is'.
If you see a good design and still have to change it.

If the salespeople at Circuit City can't answer any of your questions.

If you still own a slide rule and actually know how to use it.

If you have more toys than your kids.

If you have a habit of destroying things in order to see how they work.

If the microphone at a meeting doesn't work and you rush up to fix it.

If you can remember seven computer passwords but not your wedding anniversary.

If you have ever owned a calculator without an "equals" key.

If your wristwatch has more buttons on it than a telephone.

If you have more friends on the Internet than in real life.

If you thought the real heroes of "Apollo 13" were the mission controllers.

If you think your computer looks better without its cover.

If your wife doesn't have the foggiest idea what you do at work.

If you know what "http:/" stands for.

If you have ever tried to repair a \$5.00 radio.

If your favorite part of the 6 o'clock news is comparing their latest satellite weather picture with yours.

If your three-year-old son asks why the sky is blue and you try to explain atmospheric absorption theory.

Ramblings From The Editor

By Jerry Gardner, W6UV

It's October and Pacificon is upon us. Once again we'll show the Pacific Division we have what it takes to put on a great convention. With six year's experience putting on a first-class division convention, I think the next step is to host the ARRL National Convention. What do you say?

Charles makes some interesting points about the dues increase in his monthly column. I agree wholeheartedly. I've noticed that most of the people who spoke in opposition to the increase at the August meeting seemed to be speaking for some "group" or another that the increase would affect adversely, yet I didn't see anyone speak who would be directly affected. Case in point: several members complained that the increase would impact seniors; none of the seniors who spoke supported this claim.

NETS

W6CX Nets

APRS Net Tuesdays 1930 Hours
 147.060/+ (100 pl)
 Net Control: Barry, KC6WYA

Phone Net Thursdays 1930 Hours
 147.060/+ (100 pl)
 Net Control: Jay Caldis, KT6Y

ATV Net Thursdays 2000 Hours
 Net Control: Mike Burke, KB6RMT
 Alternate: Sylvia, KC6YJV

Youth Net Thursdays 1900 Hours
 147.060/+ (100 pl)
 Net Control: Jeff Burke, KE6YAW

Contra Costa County Emergency Services HF Net

First Thursday following first Wednesday, 2000 Hours, 3.895 MHz. Net Control: Richard Shappee, WA5HQJ

Sheriff's Amateur Radio Communications Team

Clay Yale, N6YBQ
 (510) 228-8223

Contra Costa County ARES/RACES Nets

Thursdays, 1900 Hours

Central County 145.680 Simplex
 Jim Brunk*, N6BHX
 (510) 372-8248

East County 146.535 Simplex
 Jim Tittle*, KC6SOE
 (510) 432-3220

South County 146.355/+ (100 pl)
 Ed Ritchie*, K6SFD
 (510) 837-3265

West County 145.110/-
 Rich Parker*, KD6JCT
 (510) 237-2777

QSY to 147.735/- at 1920 Hours

Meeting of all County ARES/RACES Nets

Sam Lipson, District Emergency Coordinator, KO6JR
 (510) 229-5705

* Assistant District Emergency Coordinator

...At Your Service

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feel is important. Maybe amateur radio is just not important to them anymore.

Of course, there are people that want something for nothing; that will never change. I like to pay my own way. I don't feel that I'm subsidizing anyone; that's ridiculous. I get out of it what I put into it, that's the way I see it. If I drank, I'd have one less drink per month. If I smoked, I'd buy one less pack of cigarettes per month. I wouldn't whine about it.

Get involved in the club's activities if you want your money's worth. Get involved with emergency preparedness if you want more than your money's worth. Get involved with self improvement, learn something new, upgrade, help someone else. Life's too short.

I wish to thank those who helped out with the shoreline cleanup last month. The city of Antioch requested the services of five amateurs for the event. This came on really short notice so there wasn't any time for preparation or rehearsal. Good emergency communication practice! Robert, KF6FGH, didn't realize he was going to be net control when he arrived at his post. He did, however, perform such duties without flaw. Due to a broken antenna Farideh, KF6GEO, could not participate in her usual grand manner. She did manage to make herself heard, though, and things got done that needed to be done. Manuel, KD6DEY, seemed to have the least problems and was relaying info between stations like a pro. Jim, AD6AM, was at his post and operating flawlessly as usual.

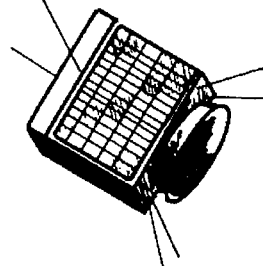
I got to sit in the shade all morning without a whole lot to do. The city thanks all who helped and apologizes for the short

notice. Due to recent vacancies and cutbacks in city staff, this effort was new to those who organized it. Whatever problems we had, the city didn't notice and the event went without incident. Thanks to the amateurs who participated.

Don't forget to place your name with the nominating committee and run for an office this year. Maybe you *will* make a difference.

Races will have training on the ICS/SEMS operation November 15. On December 13 there will be traffic handling training. The place and time of these events will be announced on the repeater.

Wishing you all good transmissions, 73... Charles



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 6	7:30 pm	MDARC Board Meeting	Emil Villa's, Concord
October 10	8:00 pm	MDARC Meeting	Our Savior's Lutheran Church 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette
October 17-19		Pacificon '97	Concord Hilton
November 1		November <i>Carrier</i> Deadline	
November 2	7:00 am-Noon	Livermore Swapmeet	Las Positas College, Livermore 1st Sunday every month
December 7	1:00 pm	Sunnyvale VEC Exams Gene Capener, WW6H, 510-254-5090	Consolidated Fire Training Center 2945 Treat Blvd., Concord 1st Sunday even months

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MDARC Meeting: October 10
Pacificon '97: October 17-19

